

REMARKS

Careful consideration has been given by the applicant to the Examiner's comments and rejection of various of the claims, as set forth in the outstanding Office Action, and favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application, as amended, is earnestly solicited.

Applicant gratefully notes the Examiner's indication that at least Claims 6, 7, 9 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten to either incorporate the limitations of allowable claims, or rewritten into independent form.

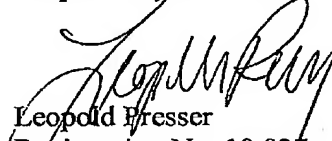
Furthermore, applicant notes the rejection of Claims 1-5, 8 and 10 under 35 U.S. C. §102(b), as being fully anticipated by Law, U.S. Patent No. 4,793,155; and the rejection of Claim 13 under 35 U.S. C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Law in view of Hartgrove, U.S. Patent No. 6,701,747, as detailed in the Office Action.

Accordingly, in order to expedite the prosecution of the application and to place the latter into substantial condition for allowance, applicant has cancelled Claims 5 and 6 without prejudice and incorporated the limitations of these allowable claims into Claim 1, thereby rendering the independent claim into condition for allowance.

Furthermore appropriate amendatory action has also been taken with regard to the remaining dependent claims, so as to place these in dependence upon an allowable main claim, thereby rendering all of the claims into condition for allowance.

In view of the foregoing amendments, which are deemed to be fully responsive to the Examiner's requirements, and wherein the claims have been limited to allowable subject matter, the early issuance of the Notice of Allowance is earnestly solicited. However, in the event that the Examiner has any queries concerning the instantly submitted Amendment, applicant's attorney respectfully requests that he be accorded the courtesy of possibly a telephone conference to discuss any matters in need of attention.

Respectfully submitted,


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